

NOTICE OF OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ACTION

Diana Hynek 09/27/2002
Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer
Office of the Chief Information Officer
14th and Constitution Ave. NW.
Room 6625
Washington, DC 20230

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, OMB has taken the following action on your request for approval of the reinstatement of an information collection received on 08/05/2002.

TITLE: Application to Shuck Surf Clams/Ocean Quahogs at Sea

AGENCY FORM NUMBER(S): None

ACTION : APPROVED WITHOUT CHANGE

OMB NO.: 0648-0240

EXPIRATION DATE: 09/30/2005

BURDEN:	RESPONSES	HOURS	COSTS(\$,000)
Previous	0	0	0
New	2	1	0
Difference	2	1	0
Program Change		1	0
Adjustment		0	0

TERMS OF CLEARANCE: None

OMB Authorizing Official Title

Donald R. Arbuckle Deputy Administrator, Office of
Information and Regulatory Affairs

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT SUBMISSION

Please read the instructions before completing this form. For additional forms or assistance in completing this form, contact your agency's Paperwork Clearance Officer. Send two copies of this form, the collection instrument to be reviewed, the supporting statement, and any additional documentation to: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Docket Library, Room 10102, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20503.

1. Agency/Subagency originating request	2. OMB control number b. <input type="checkbox"/> None a. _____ - _____
3. Type of information collection (<i>check one</i>) a. <input type="checkbox"/> New Collection b. <input type="checkbox"/> Revision of a currently approved collection c. <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of a currently approved collection d. <input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired e. <input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired f. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing collection in use without an OMB control number For b-f, note Item A2 of Supporting Statement instructions	4. Type of review requested (<i>check one</i>) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Regular submission b. <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency - Approval requested by _____ / _____ / _____ c. <input type="checkbox"/> Delegated 5. Small entities Will this information collection have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No 6. Requested expiration date a. <input type="checkbox"/> Three years from approval date b. <input type="checkbox"/> Other Specify: _____ / _____
7. Title	
8. Agency form number(s) (<i>if applicable</i>)	
9. Keywords	
10. Abstract	
11. Affected public (<i>Mark primary with "P" and all others that apply with "x"</i>) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Individuals or households d. <input type="checkbox"/> Farms b. <input type="checkbox"/> Business or other for-profit e. <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Government c. <input type="checkbox"/> Not-for-profit institutions f. <input type="checkbox"/> State, Local or Tribal Government	12. Obligation to respond (<i>check one</i>) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary b. <input type="checkbox"/> Required to obtain or retain benefits c. <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory
13. Annual recordkeeping and reporting burden a. Number of respondents _____ b. Total annual responses _____ 1. Percentage of these responses collected electronically _____ % c. Total annual hours requested _____ d. Current OMB inventory _____ e. Difference _____ f. Explanation of difference 1. Program change _____ 2. Adjustment _____	14. Annual reporting and recordkeeping cost burden (<i>in thousands of dollars</i>) a. Total annualized capital/startup costs _____ b. Total annual costs (O&M) _____ c. Total annualized cost requested _____ d. Current OMB inventory _____ e. Difference _____ f. Explanation of difference 1. Program change _____ 2. Adjustment _____
15. Purpose of information collection (<i>Mark primary with "P" and all others that apply with "X"</i>) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Application for benefits e. <input type="checkbox"/> Program planning or management b. <input type="checkbox"/> Program evaluation f. <input type="checkbox"/> Research c. <input type="checkbox"/> General purpose statistics g. <input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory or compliance d. <input type="checkbox"/> Audit	16. Frequency of recordkeeping or reporting (<i>check all that apply</i>) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Recordkeeping b. <input type="checkbox"/> Third party disclosure c. <input type="checkbox"/> Reporting 1. <input type="checkbox"/> On occasion 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-annually 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Annually 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Biennially 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe) _____
17. Statistical methods Does this information collection employ statistical methods <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	18. Agency Contact (person who can best answer questions regarding the content of this submission) Name: _____ Phone: _____

19. Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions

On behalf of this Federal Agency, I certify that the collection of information encompassed by this request complies with 5 CFR 1320.9

NOTE: The text of 5 CFR 1320.9, and the related provisions of 5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3), appear at the end of the instructions. *The certification is to be made with reference to those regulatory provisions as set forth in the instructions.*

The following is a summary of the topics, regarding the proposed collection of information, that the certification covers:

- (a) It is necessary for the proper performance of agency functions;
- (b) It avoids unnecessary duplication;
- (c) It reduces burden on small entities;
- (d) It used plain, coherent, and unambiguous terminology that is understandable to respondents;
- (e) Its implementation will be consistent and compatible with current reporting and recordkeeping practices;
- (f) It indicates the retention period for recordkeeping requirements;
- (g) It informs respondents of the information called for under 5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3):
 - (i) Why the information is being collected;
 - (ii) Use of information;
 - (iii) Burden estimate;
 - (iv) Nature of response (voluntary, required for a benefit, mandatory);
 - (v) Nature and extent of confidentiality; and
 - (vi) Need to display currently valid OMB control number;
- (h) It was developed by an office that has planned and allocated resources for the efficient and effective management and use of the information to be collected (see note in Item 19 of instructions);
- (i) It uses effective and efficient statistical survey methodology; and
- (j) It makes appropriate use of information technology.

If you are unable to certify compliance with any of the provisions, identify the item below and explain the reason in Item 18 of the Supporting Statement.

Signature of Senior Official or designee

Date

Agency Certification (signature of Assistant Administrator or head of MB staff for L.O.s, or of the Director of a Program or Staff Office)	
Signature	Date
Signature of NOAA Clearance Officer	
Signature	Date

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT
APPLICATION TO SHUCK SURF CLAM/OCEAN QUAHOGS AT SEA
OMB CONTROL NO. 0648-0240**

A. JUSTIFICATION

1. Explain the circumstances that make the collection of information necessary.

The surf clam and ocean quahog fishery is managed under an individual transferable quota system which sets both individual and overall harvest quotas. The quotas are monitored by requiring quota holders to affix numbered tags to each cage of shellfish landed (a cage contains 32 bushels of unshucked shellfish). Both individual and overall quotas are monitored through logbook reports which track quota to individual owners via tag numbers.

When Amendment 8 to the Atlantic Surf Clam and Ocean Quahog Fishery Management Plan was proposed, the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council intended to require all surf clams and ocean quahogs to be landed unshucked and in cages. However, there was significant industry concern about this requirement because of increasingly stringent state and local government restrictions concerning the discharge of processing wastes from shoreside shucking operations. Several processing operations had already been cited for pollution offenses and estimated that it could cost \$1 million to bring their plants into compliance with the new discharge requirements. Therefore, the regulations at 50 CFR 648.74 allow the Regional Director to approve requests to shuck product at sea and dispose of the associated wastes over the side.

Because of the difficulties involved in converting the volume of shucked meats to bushels in order to track individual and overall harvest quotas, the regulations allow shucking at sea only if the vessel carries a NMFS-approved observer who will certify the amount of unshucked shellfish harvested. The observer will also collect data to aid in the development of an accurate conversion factor for future use in calculating unshucked catch from the amount of shucked meats landed. The development of a reliable conversion factor will replace the observer requirement. To date there has been little demand from the industry to shuck at sea, however, the option remains because of the potentially significant financial impact on the processors of discharge requirements.

2. Explain how, by whom, how frequently, and for what purpose the information will be used.

The Application collects the basic information required for the Regional Director to authorize shucking at sea operations and arrange for placement of the required observer. The form requests the following information:

- Owner's name, address and phone - self-identifying information: establishes the party responsible for observer costs under the regulations.

- Vessel name - vessel to be used for at sea processing.
- NMFS permit number - used to verify that the vessel has a valid Federal permit to harvest surf clams and ocean quahogs.
- Method used to calculate the amount of surf clams or ocean quahogs harvested in the shell - reviewed to ensure that it will provide information of use in development of a conversion factor.
- Vessel dimensions - gross tons and length, used to provide the observer with information relative to the deployment.
- Accommodations - observer accommodations on board vessel. If accommodations are unavailable, inadequate, or unsafe the Application may be denied.
- Length of Fishing Trip - used in making observer arrangements.

After receiving this information, the applicant is contacted by NMFS staff to discuss the period of time for which an observer will be required. The application may be approved for trips which will be taken over a period of months. Such arrangements are subject to observer availability.

3. Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological techniques or other forms of information technology.

Applications may be submitted either by mail or fax. Observer data will be processed and compiled using computer systems.

4. Describe efforts to identify duplication.

Owner identification (name, address and telephone number) and vessel size (gross tonnage and length) are also collected on the Application for a Federal Fisheries Permit (NOAA 88-155, OMB# 0648-0202). It is easier for the owner to provide this information twice than for the agency to access the permit record and retrieve the information.

5. If the collection of information involves small businesses or other small entities, describe the methods used to minimize burden.

Small businesses are the primary respondents to the data collection, and the information required is already minimal. This alternative was proposed by the industry itself to provide relief from burdensome wastewater discharge requirements being imposed by state and local governments.

6. Describe the consequences to the Federal program or policy activities if the collection is not conducted or is conducted less frequently.

The information requested on the Application will be collected for each authorization, but approval for shucking at sea operations may be given for a specified period of time. Authorization is, however, subject to observer availability, the existence of adequate observer accommodations, and verification that the vessel owner is paying observer costs as required. Every attempt will be made to prevent the application requirement from constraining business operations.

7. Explain any special circumstances that require the collection to be conducted in a manner inconsistent with OMB guidelines.

The collection is consistent with OMB guidelines.

8. Provide a copy of the PRA Federal Register notice that solicited public comments on the information collection prior to this submission. Summarize the public comments received in response to that notice and describe the actions taken by the agency in response to those comments. Describe the efforts to consult with persons outside the agency to obtain their views on the availability of data, frequency of collection, the clarity of instructions and recordkeeping, disclosure, or reporting format (if any), and on the data elements to be recorded, disclosed, or reported.

A Federal Register Notice (copy attached) solicited public comment on this renewal. No comments were received.

9. Explain any decisions to provide payments or gifts to respondents, other than remuneration of contractors or grantees.

No payments or gifts are made.

10. Describe any assurance or confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for assurance in statute, regulation, or agency policy.

Section 402 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFCMA) provides statutory confidentiality to these data. The collection handling and disposition of these data comply with NOAA Administrative Order 216-100, Protection of Confidential Fisheries Statistics.

11. Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private.

No sensitive questions are asked.

12. Provide an estimate in hours of the burden of the collection of information.

See table below:

No. of Requestors	No. of Requests per Requestor	Total No. of Requests	Hrs per Request	Total Hours	Cost to Public	Cost to Government
2	1	2	0.083	0.166	\$2.00	\$40

13. Provide an estimate of the total annual cost burden to the respondents or record-keepers resulting from the collection.

See table # 12 above.

14. Provide estimates of annualized cost to the Federal government.

See table in #12 above.

15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments reported in Items 13 or 14 of the OMB 83-I.

This is a program change for reinstatement of an expired approval.

16. For collections whose results will be published, outline the plans for tabulation and publication.

The results will not be published.

17. If seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons why display would be inappropriate.

The expiration date will be displayed.

18. Explain each exception to the certification statement identified in Item 19 of the OMB 83-I.

There are no exceptions.

B. COLLECTIONS OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS

This collection does not use statistical methods.

APPLICATION TO SHUCK SURF CLAMS/OCEAN QUAHOGS AT SEA

In order to receive authorization to shuck surf clams or ocean quahogs at sea, please provide the information requested below and mail to:

Regional Administrator
National Marine Fisheries Service
One Blackburn Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930

This application is required under 50 CFR 648.74 in order to obtain a shucking-at-sea permit for the Atlantic surf clam and ocean quahog fishery. Information provided on the application will allow the Regional Administrator to determine if a vessel has the capability to calculate the amount of surf clams or ocean quahogs harvested in the shell. This information is needed to execute the individual transferable quota system which uses unshucked bushels as a standard unit of measure. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

1. Owner's Name: _____

2. Street: _____

City, St., Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

3. Vessel Name: _____

4. NMFS Permit Number: _____

5. Please describe below the method to be used to calculate the amount of surf clams or ocean quahogs harvested in the shell:

6. Vessel Dimensions: Gross Tons _____ Length _____

7. Accommodations (for observer) : _____

8. Length of Fishing Trip: _____

Signed: _____

Dated: _____

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 5 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instruction, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining data needed, and completing and reviewing the information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or suggestions for reducing this burden to: NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930.

FEDERAL REGISTER. The Regional Administrator shall send notice of any action under this paragraph (c)(1) to each surf clam and ocean quahog processor and to each surf clam and ocean quahog permit holder.

(2) If the Regional Administrator determines, as the result of testing by state, Federal, or private entities, that a closure of an area under paragraph (a) of this section is necessary to prevent any adverse effects fishing may have on the public health, he/she may close the area for 60 days by publication of notification in the FEDERAL REGISTER, without prior comment or public hearing. If an extension of the 60-day closure period is necessary to protect the public health, the hearing and notice requirements of paragraph (c)(1) of this section shall be followed.

(d) *Areas closed due to the presence of paralytic shellfish poisoning toxin*—(1) *Maine mahogany quahog zone*. The Maine mahogany quahog zone is closed to fishing for ocean quahogs except in those areas of the zone that are tested by the State of Maine and deemed to be within the requirements of the National Shellfish Sanitation Program and adopted by the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference as acceptable limits for the toxin responsible for paralytic shellfish poisoning. Harvesting is allowed in such areas during the periods specified by the Maine Department of Marine Resources during which quahogs are safe for human consumption. For information regarding these areas contact the State of Maine Division of Marine Resources at (207-624-6550).

(2) [Reserved]

[61 FR 34968, July 3, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 14649, Mar. 27, 1997; 62 FR 37156, July 11, 1997; 63 FR 27485, May 19, 1998]

§ 648.74 Shucking at sea.

(a) *Observers*. (1) The Regional Administrator may allow the shucking of surf clams or ocean quahogs at sea if he/she determines that an observer carried aboard the vessel can measure accurately the total amount of surf clams and ocean quahogs harvested in the shell prior to shucking.

(2) Any vessel owner may apply in writing to the Regional Administrator to shuck surf clams or ocean quahogs

at sea. The application shall specify: Name and address of the applicant, permit number of the vessel, method of calculating the amount of surf clams or ocean quahogs harvested in the shell, vessel dimensions and accommodations, and length of fishing trip.

(3) The Regional Administrator shall provide an observer to any vessel owner whose application is approved. The owner shall pay all reasonable expenses of carrying the observer on board the vessel.

(4) Any observer shall certify at the end of each trip the amount of surf clams or ocean quahogs harvested in the shell by the vessel. Such certification shall be made by the observer's signature on the daily fishing log required by § 648.7.

(b) *Conversion factor*. (1) Based on the recommendation of the MAFMC, the Regional Administrator may allow shucking at sea of surf clams or ocean quahogs, with or without an observer, if he/she determines a conversion factor for shucked meats to calculate accurately the amount of surf clams or ocean quahogs harvested in the shell.

(2) The Regional Administrator shall publish notification in the FEDERAL REGISTER specifying a conversion factor together with the data used in its calculation for a 30-day comment period. After consideration of the public comments and any other relevant data, the Regional Administrator may publish final notification in the FEDERAL REGISTER specifying the conversion factor.

(3) If the Regional Administrator makes the determination specified in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, he/she may authorize the vessel owner to shuck surf clams or ocean quahogs at sea. Such authorization shall be in writing and be carried aboard the vessel.

§ 648.75 Cage identification.

Except as provided in § 648.76, the following cage identification requirements apply to all vessels issued a Federal fishing permit for surf clams and ocean quahogs:

(a) *Tagging*. Before offloading, all cages that contain surf clams or ocean quahogs must be tagged with tags acquired annually under paragraph (b) of

(B) minimize the mortality of bycatch which cannot be avoided;

(12) assess the type and amount of fish caught and released alive during recreational fishing under catch and release fishery management programs and the mortality of such fish, and include conservation and management measures that, to the extent practicable, minimize mortality and ensure the extended survival of such fish;

(13) include a description of the commercial, recreational, and charter fishing sectors which participate in the fishery and, to the extent practicable, quantify trends in landings of the managed fishery resource by the commercial, recreational, and charter fishing sectors; and

(14) to the extent that rebuilding plans or other conservation and management measures which reduce the overall harvest in a fishery are necessary, allocate any harvest restrictions or recovery benefits fairly and equitably among the commercial, recreational, and charter fishing sectors in the fishery.

97-453, 99-659, 101-627, 102-251, 104-297

(b) DISCRETIONARY PROVISIONS.--Any fishery management plan which is prepared by any Council, or by the Secretary, with respect to any fishery, may--

(1) require a permit to be obtained from, and fees to be paid to, the Secretary, with respect to--

(A) any fishing vessel of the United States fishing, or wishing to fish, in the exclusive economic zone [or special areas,]* or for anadromous species or Continental Shelf fishery resources beyond such zone [or areas]*;

(B) the operator of any such vessel; or

(C) any United States fish processor who first receives fish that are subject to the plan;

(2) designate zones where, and periods when, fishing shall be limited, or shall not be permitted, or shall be permitted only by specified types of fishing vessels or with specified types and quantities of fishing gear;

(3) establish specified limitations which are necessary and appropriate for the conservation and management of the fishery on the--

(A) catch of fish (based on area, species, size, number, weight, sex, bycatch, total biomass, or other factors);

(B) sale of fish caught during commercial, recreational, or charter fishing, consistent with any applicable Federal and State safety and quality requirements; and

(C) transshipment or transportation of fish or fish products under permits issued pursuant to section 204;

(4) prohibit, limit, condition, or require the use of specified types and quantities of fishing gear, fishing vessels, or equipment for such vessels, including devices which may be required to facilitate enforcement of the provisions of this Act;

(5) incorporate (consistent with the national standards, the other provisions of this Act, and any other applicable law) the relevant fishery conservation and management measures of the coastal States nearest to the fishery;

(6) establish a limited access system for the fishery in order to achieve optimum yield if, in developing such system, the Council and the Secretary take into account--

(A) present participation in the fishery,

(B) historical fishing practices in, and dependence on, the fishery,

(C) the economics of the fishery,

(D) the capability of fishing vessels used in the fishery to engage in other fisheries,

(E) the cultural and social framework relevant to the fishery and any affected fishing communities, and

(F) any other relevant considerations;

(7) require fish processors who first receive fish that are subject to the plan to submit data (other than economic data) which are necessary for the conservation and management of the fishery;

(8) require that one or more observers be carried on board a vessel of the United States engaged in fishing for species that are subject to the plan, for the purpose of collecting data necessary for the conservation and management of the fishery; except that such a vessel shall not be required to carry an observer on board if the facilities of the vessel for the quartering of an observer, or for carrying out observer functions, are so inadequate or unsafe that the health or safety of the observer or the safe operation of the vessel would be jeopardized;

(9) assess and specify the effect which the conservation and management measures of the plan will have on the stocks of naturally spawning anadromous fish in the region;

(10) include, consistent with the other provisions of this Act, conservation and management measures that provide harvest incentives for participants within each gear group to employ fishing practices that result in lower levels of bycatch or in lower levels of the mortality of bycatch;

(11) reserve a portion of the allowable biological catch of the fishery for use in scientific research; and

(12) prescribe such other measures, requirements, or conditions and restrictions as are determined to be necessary and appropriate for the conservation and management of the fishery.

97-453, 104-297

included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: July 25, 2001.

Madeleine Clayton,

*Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer,
Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 01-19220 Filed 8-1-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 072701A]

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; List of Gear by Fisheries and Fishery Management Councils

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before October 1, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Madeleine Clayton, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6086, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC 20230 (or via the Internet at MClayton@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Mark R. Millikin, F/SF3, Room 13357, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282 (phone 301-713-2341, ext. 53).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

Under provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. et seq) as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act (P.L. 104-297), the Secretary of Commerce is required to publish a list of all fisheries under the authority of each Fishery Management Council and of all fishing gear to be used in such fisheries. Such a list has been

published. Any person wishing to use gear not on the list, or engage in a fishery not on the list, must provide the appropriate Fishery Management Council (or in some cases the Secretary) with 90 days advance written notice. If the Secretary takes no action to prohibit such a fishery or use of such gear, the person may proceed.

II. Method of Collection

The respondent provides written notice. No form is used.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0346.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 18.

Estimated Time Per Response: 90 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 27.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$18.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: July 25, 2001.

Madeleine Clayton,

*Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer,
Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 01-19222 Filed 8-1-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 072701C]

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Application to Shuck Clams/Ocean Quahogs at Sea

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506 (c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before October 1, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Madeleine Clayton, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6086, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC 20230 (or via Internet at MClayton@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Myles Raizin, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1 Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930 (phone 978-281-9104).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The surf clam/ocean quahog fishery is managed under an individual transferable quota system that sets both individual and overall harvest goals. In order to aid in the enforcement of these quotas, fishermen are generally required to land unshucked surf clams and ocean quahogs in 32-bushel cages. Because of potential pollution problems with this practice, fishermen can shuck at sea if they obtain an authorization to do so from NOAA. NOAA will only authorize the action if a NOAA-approved observer is carried on the vessel to certify the amount of unshucked shellfish harvested. This is required because of the difficulty in converted shucked weights into bushels.

II. Method of Collection

A paper form is submitted.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0240.

Form Number: None.
Type of Review: Regular submission.
Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations, individuals or households.
Estimated Number of Respondents: 2.
Estimated Time Per Response: 5 minutes.
Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 2.
Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$12.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: July 27, 2001.

Madeleine Clayton,

*Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer,
 Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 01-19355 Filed 8-1-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 072701D]

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Statement of Financial Interests, Regional Fishery Management Councils

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995,

Public Law. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506 (c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before October 1, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Madeleine Clayton, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6086, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC 20230 (or via Internet at MClayton@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Richard Surdi, F/SF5, RM: 13142, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring MD 20910-3282 (phone 301-713-2337, ext. 169).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act authorizes the establishment of Regional Fishery Management Councils to exercise sound judgment in the stewardship of fishery resources through the preparation, monitoring, and revision of such plans under circumstances (a) which will enable the States, the fishing industry, consumer and environmental organizations, and other interested persons to participate in, and advise on, the establishment and administration of such plans, and (b) which take into account the social and economic needs of the States. Section 302(j) of the Act requires that Council members appointed in accordance with Section 302 (b)(2) and Section 302 (b)(5) who are not subject to disclosure and recusal laws of an Indian Tribal Government disclose their financial interests in any Council fishery. These interests include harvesting, processing, or marketing activity that is being, or will be, undertaken within any fishery over which the Council concerned has jurisdiction.

A member required to disclose a financial interest shall not vote on a Council decision which would have a significant and predictable effect on such financial interest. A Council decision shall be considered to have a significant and predictable effect on a financial interest if there is a close causal link between the Council decision and an expected and substantially disproportionate benefit to the financial interest of the affected individual relative to the financial interest of other participants in the same gear type or sector of the fishery. An affected individual who may not vote may participate in Council deliberations relating to the decision after notifying

the Council of the voting recusal and identifying the financial interest that would be affected.

II. Method of Collection

Respondents submit paper forms. With the exception of the Tribal Government nominees, Council nominees for appointment must provide and file a financial interest form as prescribed by the Secretary prior to the date of appointment. Seated Council members appointed by the Secretary, including the Tribal Government appointees, must file a financial interest form within 45 days of taking office and must file an update of their statements within 30 days of the time any such financial interest is acquired or substantially changed.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0192.

Form Number: NOAA Form 88-195.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 188.

Estimated Time Per Response: 35 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 110.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$565.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: July 27, 2001.

Madeleine Clayton,

*Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer,
 Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

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